



State of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor

Kathleen Clarke  
Executive Director

Lowell P. Braxton  
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210

PO Box 145801


Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801


801-538-5340

801-359-3940 (Fax)

801-538-7223 (TDD)

May 17, 2000

TO: Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor 

FROM: Doug Jensen, Reclamation Specialist 

Subject: Closure of Mine Portals at the Drum Mine, M/027/007, Millard County, Utah

During a site inspection tour of the Drum Mine, four open portals and a glory hole were noted in the bottom of the SW EX Pit. A cursory inspection revealed that the condition of the openings were extremely unstable and posed a hazard to the public.

While this area is remote, 35 miles northwest of Delta, Utah, there are signs that this is a popular recreation area. The roads within the site showed signs of a significant amount of traffic in the recent past. The roads around the open portals in the pit also showed that the public had frequently visited this area.

If the public is utilizing these openings for recreation purposes, fatalities related to the unstable condition of the area is a real possibility. A hazard elimination utilizing AMR funds has been proposed.

Because Western States Minerals will have equipment in this area for the purposes of reclaiming the mine site, they have been approached to utilize that equipment to eliminate these hazards. Presently the closure of these openings are not a part of Western's scope of work. The Division has offered a sum of \$20,000 to Western States to close the portals and reclaim the road that accesses the area.

A backhoe will be used to close the four portals by backfilling them with the material from nearby sources. Because there is no vehicle access at the present time, several trucks and a cat will be used to close the glory hole. Material will be dumped near the hole and the cat will be used to make a ramp to the area. Once the ramp is established, material will be dumped directly into the hole, and the cat will be used to assure that all voids have been filled.

This work will remove this particular hazard from an area that is presently being used by the public for recreation purposes.

jb

cc: Mary Ann Wright, DOGM  
Carl Roberts, DOGM